

40¢
#84

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP



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TM

THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU

THIS IS
ANOTHER
FINE MESS
YOU'VE GOTTEN
ME INTO,
CHINAMAN!



DECEMBER

THE BULL
AND THE
DRAGON!



The trouble with most air guns is they're too big for smaller kids to handle.

That's why we make the Crosman® 788 BB Scout—the *only* pump-up BB gun designed especially for younger shooters.

The BB Scout is only 31 inches long and weighs less than 3 pounds. But just because it's our

smallest air gun doesn't mean we cut down on the features. It's got a solid-steel barrel, rugged metal receiver and adjustable rear sights like our bigger Crosman air guns.

Which means that now, instead of having a little fun with a gun that's too big, you can have a lotta fun with a gun that's just right.

A LITTLE CROSMAN IS A LOTTA FUN.



Part of being a kid
is owning a Crosman.

Crosman
AirGuns®
A Calumet Company

Protect your valuable gun. Insist on Crosman Super BBs®.

Air guns must be used under adult supervision.

"Call me Shang-Chi, as my father did, when he raised me in the vacuum of his Honan, China retreat. Since then, I have learned that my father is Dr. Fu Manchu, the most insidiously evil man on earth...and that to honor him would bring nothing but *dishonor* to the spirit of my name.

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

MASTER OF KUNG FU!

Featuring supporting characters created by SAX ROHMER

WARRIORS OF THE GOLDEN DAWN

PART 2 THE BULL AND THE DRAGON

"RECENT DAYS HAVE SEEN ME TOO...
MECHANICAL.

NOTHING,
CHINAMAN.

"RESOLVED TO DO WHAT I MUST
WITHOUT THOUGHT OR CON-
SCIENCE OR SENSITIVITY, I HAVE
MOVED LIKE A MACHINE, EVER
READY TO PERFORM BUT INCAPA-
BLE OF JUDGING MY OWN
PERFORMANCE.

"IT IS, I THINK, A DEVICE OF PSYCHIC DEFENSE. OFTEN, ACTIONS MUST
BE TAKEN FOR THEIR OWN SAKE, BUT HERE IN SOUTH AMERICA-- WHERE WE
SEARCH FOR FU MANCHU, MY FATHER-- AMIDST SO MUCH LIFE, MY AWARENESS
RETURNS. SPIRIT MERGES WITH BODY, OLD LOVERS, AGAIN UNITED.

DOUG MOENCH WRITER MIKE ZECK PENCILER GENE DAY INKER JOE ROSEN LETTERER G. ROUSSOS COLORIST R. STERN EDITOR J. SHOOTER ED-IN-CHIEF

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SHOULDA KNOWN THE INFORMATION WE GOT FROM LEEKS' INTERROGATION WAS A WASTE. LANDMARKS ARE A LAUGH IN THIS KIND OF TERRAIN-- EVERY TREE, FERN, BOULDER AND MOSQUITO LOOKS JUST THE SAME AS ALL THE BLOODY OTHERS.

TO YOU, TARR-- NOT TO THE INDIANS WHO LIVE AMONG THEM.

AWRIGHT, CHINAMAN, MAYBE YOU GOT A POINT. BUT I STILL SAY IT WAS A WASTE OF TIME. WE'D HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF COMBIN' LEEKS' ORIGINAL 100 SQUARE KILOMETERS.

NOT IF WE CAN FIND THE ~~KEY~~ INDIAN SPOKE OF. HE SAID IT LEADS STRAIGHT TO MY FATHER'S NEW FORTRESS...



YEAH, BUT IT'S PROBABLY KILOMETERS FROM HERE. WE MUST'VE TAKEN THE WRONG TACK SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE.



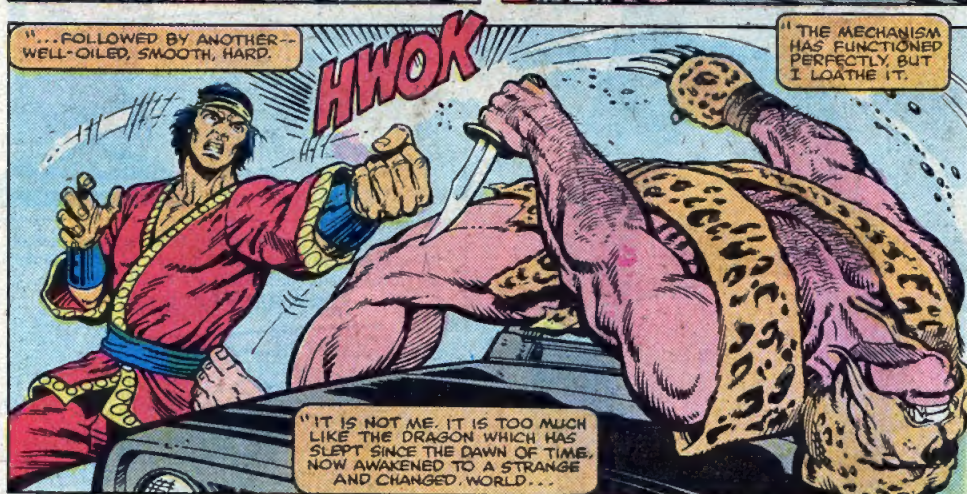
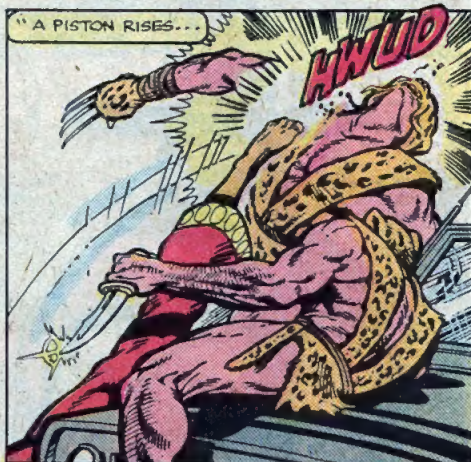
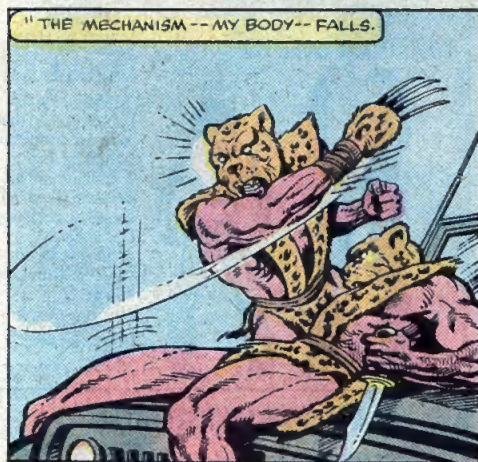
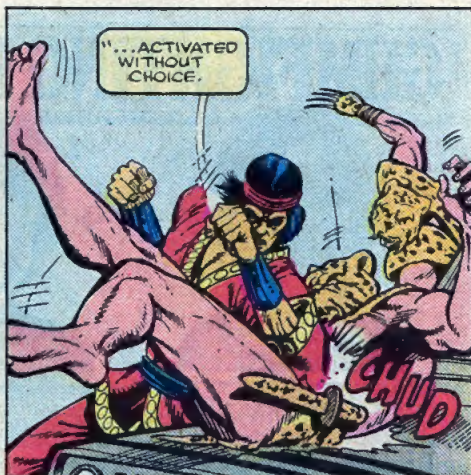
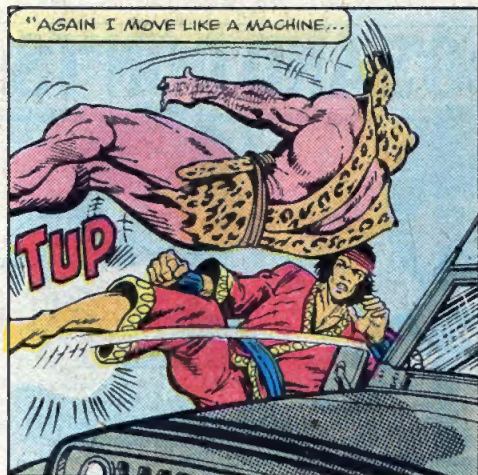
AND I'LL BET MY ACHIN' BACK THERE AIN'T A SINGLE LEOPARD-CLOWN WITHIN--

BEHIND YOU, TARR!



HUH--?





GUMFIGHTING DO'S AND DON'TS.

1.



2.



3.



The first thing to do—pick the right chew: new Hubba Bubba®. The soft and juicy bubble gum with amazing no-stick bubbles™. Then proceed with this simple yet effective gumfight drill: (1) Begin blowing bubble. Note Hubba Bubba's incredibly large bubble. (2) When the Hubba Bubba bubble breaks do not be alarmed. (3) Simply remove Hubba Bubba from your face. That's right, simply remove and replace in mouth. Return to step 1. Repeat drill ten times.

THE PROPER STANCE.



YOUR SIZE IS NOT IMPORTANT.

The size of your bubble is. And that means choosing the right bubble gum — Hubba Bubba. Because when it comes to great, big, fat bubbles, nothing sizes up to a Hubba Bubba bubble.

Note proper stance.

ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.

This boy did. And now instead of wearing a smile, he's wearing a paper bag over the bubble gum stuck to his face. Definitely not new soft and juicy Hubba Bubba Bubble Gum. Does Hubba Bubba really work? Absolutely! Hubba Bubba is gumfighter tested and approved.

DADGUM MY BUBBLEGUM!



So pick up a pack of new Hubba Bubba in original or mint flavor. Enjoy that soft, juicy, delicious taste. Plus those great, big Hubba Bubba bubbles that won't stick to your face.

SOFT. JUICY. DELICIOUS.

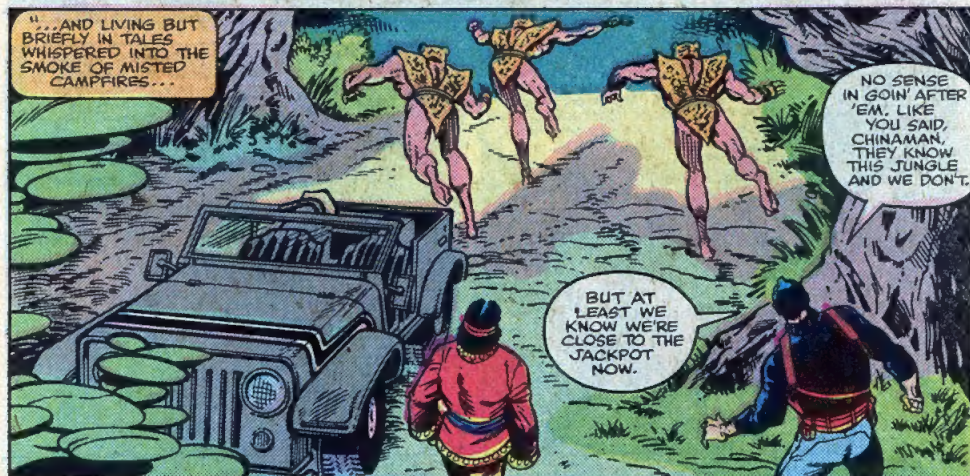


BIG BUBBLES, NO TROUBLES.



"...A NEW WORLD IN WHICH WE CAN ACT ONLY IN MIMICRY OF THE NEW LIFE, FORFEITING ALL THE GRACE AND BEAUTY OF HIS ANCIENT STIRRINGS..."

"...BECOMING IN THE PROCESS NEITHER DRAGON NOR MAN, BUT MERE MYTH DWELLING ONLY IN THE SOULS OF MEN..."



"...AND LIVING BUT BRIEFLY IN TALES WHISPERED INTO THE SMOKE OF MISTED CAMPFIRES..."

NO SENSE IN GOIN' AFTER 'EM, LIKE YOU SAID, CHINAMAN, THEY KNOW THIS JUNGLE AND WE DON'T.

BUT AT LEAST WE KNOW WE'RE CLOSE TO THE JACKPOT NOW.



GUESS LEEKS' INTERROGATION DID DO SOME GOOD AFTER ALL. I'LL SAY THIS FOR HIS METHODS-- THEY WERE EFFECTIVE.



"YES... AND BORDERING ON THE CRUEL..."

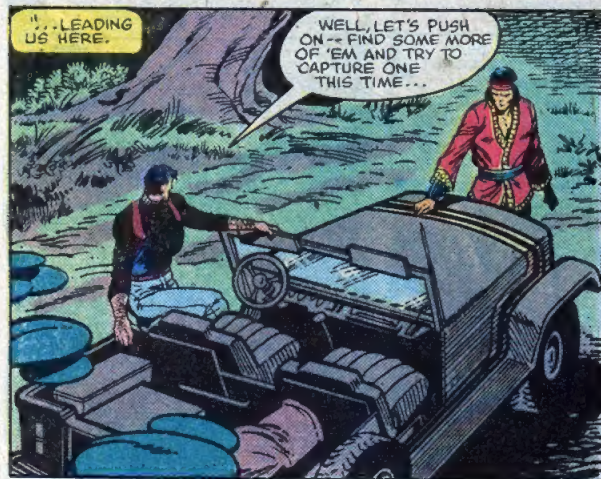
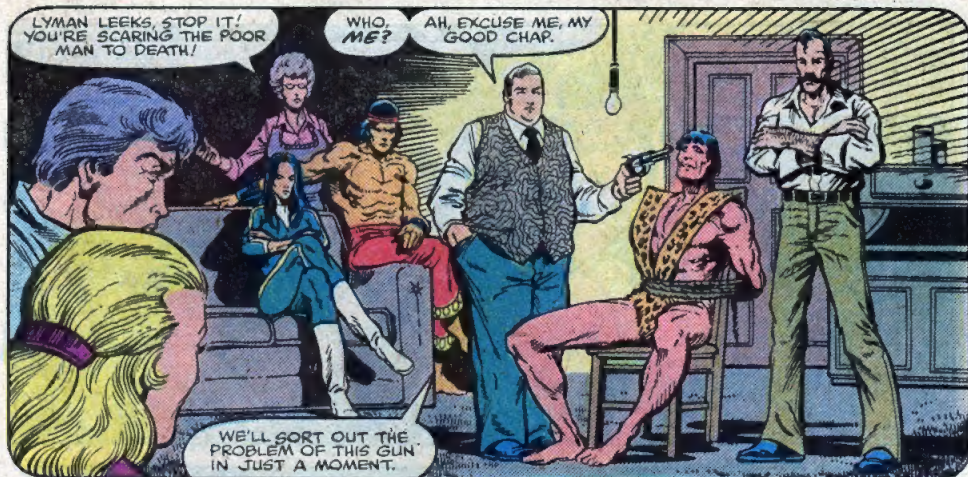
YOU KNOW, THIS GUN ONCE WENT OFF QUITE BY ACCIDENT.

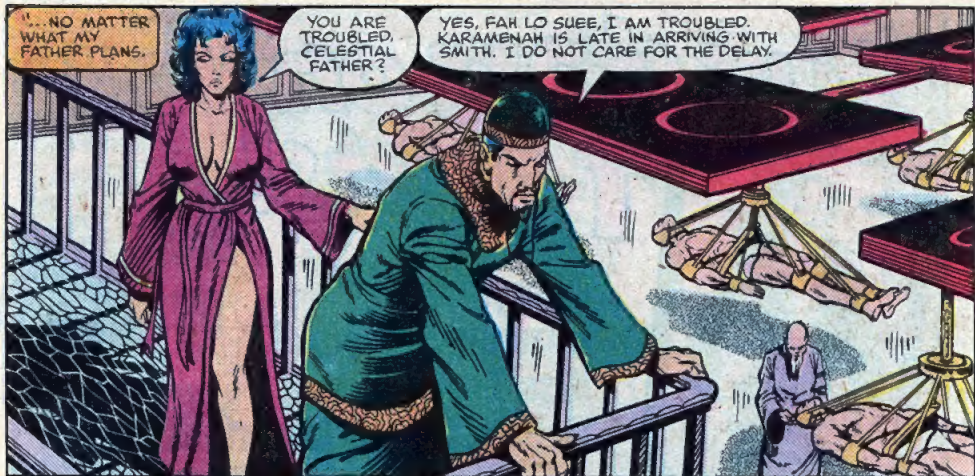
I REALLY DIDN'T MEAN TO FIRE THE DELUXED THING...



JUST WAVED IT LIKE THIS AND-- BOOM!-- IT WENT RIGHT OFF.

SOMETHING DEFECTIVE ABOUT THE FIRING PIN, I SUSPECT.

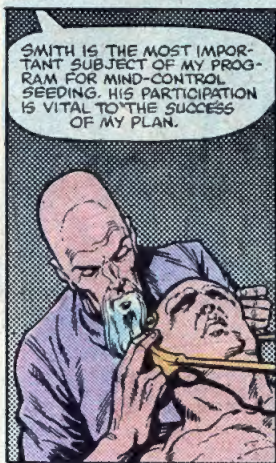




"...NO MATTER WHAT MY FATHER PLANS.

YOU ARE TROUBLED, CELESTIAL FATHER?

YES, FAH LO SUEE, I AM TROUBLED. KARAMENAH IS LATE IN ARRIVING WITH SMITH. I DO NOT CARE FOR THE DELAY.



SMITH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT OF MY PROGRAM FOR MIND-CONTROL SEEDING. HIS PARTICIPATION IS VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF MY PLAN.



IF KARAMENAH FAILS, I WILL GET SMITH FOR YOU. BUT NOW, SOME GOOD NEWS-- THE INFORMATION PACKET COMPILED BY LYMAN LEEKS, WITH THE AID OF ZARAN, I INTERCEPTED IT BEFORE MI-6 OR YOUR LEOPARD-CULTISTS COULD GET IT.



IT IS A LIST OF THEIR NAMES, ALMOST ALL OF THEM, INCLUDING MANY ALREADY PROCESSED. THEN LEEKS KNOWS OF THE KIDNAPINGS...



AND WHAT OF SHANG-CHI? DID HE SEE THIS LIST?

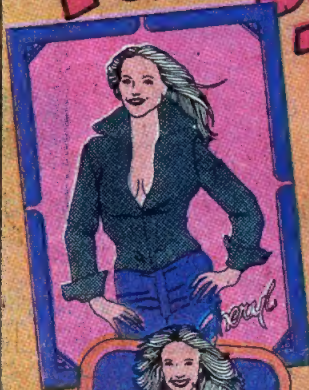
NO, CELESTIAL FATHER... AND MAY I ASK ABOUT MY BROTHER SHANG-CHI? WILL YOU AGAIN GRANT HIS LIFE... OR HAS THE TIME COME, FINALLY, FOR HIS DEATH?



LET US NOT SPEAK OF LIFE AND DEATH, DAUGHTER. THEY ARE ISSUES, NOW, TOO SMALL FOR CONCERN. THE WORLD, AND THE WORLD ALONE, MUST PREOCCUPY OUR THOUGHTS AND DREAMS AND ACTIONS.

EVEN NOW--

Put stars on your T-shirts!



**Cheryl Ladd
Suzanne Somers
Kiss Rock Group
Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders**



Size approx. 5 in. by 6½ in.



Color photo iron-ons from WHOPPERS

Set of all four
\$2.00 value

only **\$1.00**

and a Whoppers wrapper
or \$1.25 without wrapper

Brighten your T-shirts, jackets, book bags with sensational star photos in brilliant color. These iron-ons apply in a minute with a hot iron and are fully washable, durable, permanent and wearable. Get today's super stars from Whoppers, the super star malted milk candy covered with rich cocoa coating. Reach for Whoppers and send for the stars!

TO: WHOPPERS IRON-ON OFFER
1955 Raymond, Suite 100
Northbrook, IL 60062

Enclosed is \$1.00 plus one wrapper from any size WHOPPERS Malted Milk Candy (or \$1.25 without wrapper). Please send a set of four Star Iron-ons (Suzanne Somers, Cheryl Ladd, Kiss and Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders).

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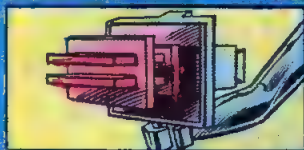
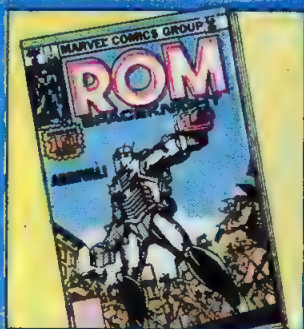


YOU CAN ALWAYS TELL A
WHOPPER WHEN YOU HEAR ONE **CRUNCH!**

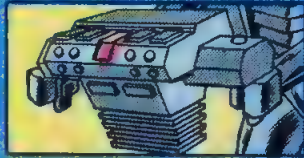
NEW!

ELECTRONIC

ACTION TOY!



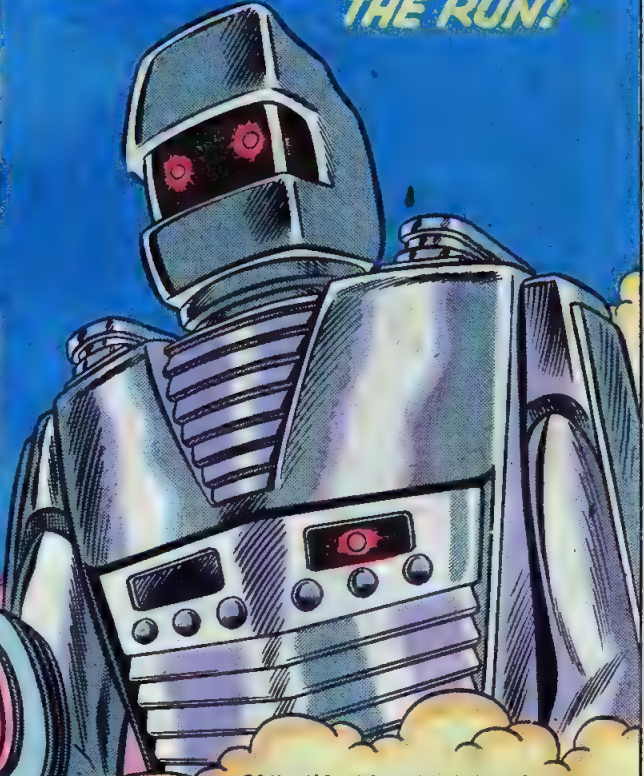
ROM'S ENERGY ANALYZER LIGHT
FLIPS BRIGHT RED, AND MAKES
STRANGE ELECTRONIC SOUNDS
WHEN IT'S ALONE. ROM TO SEE
IF CREATURES ARE SAFE.



ROM'S TORSO
MAKES ELECTRONIC SOUNDS
WHEN IT'S ALONE. ROM TO
COMMUNICATE WITH YOU.

ROM™

**HAS COME... EVIL IS ON
THE RUN!**



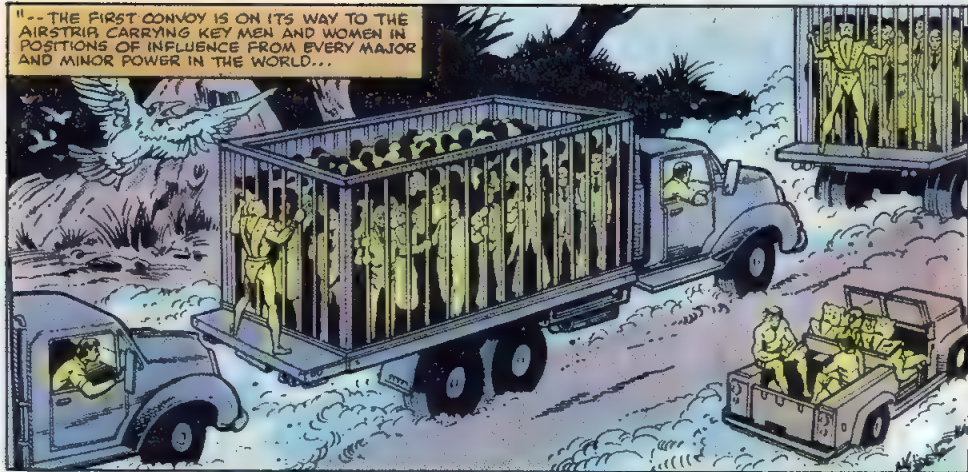
ROM'S WEAPON IS
THE NEUTRALIZER.
IT FLASHES AND
MAKES ELECTRONIC
ZAPPING SOUNDS.
PRETEND IT SENDS
EVIL CREATURES TO
THE SHADOW ZONE.

ROM THE SPACEKNIGHT IS A MICRO-
ELECTRONIC TOY FROM PARKER BROTHERS.
HIS ROCKET PODS LIGHT UP, HIS RESPIRATOR MAKES
REALISTIC BREATHING SOUNDS, AND THE THREE AC-
CESSORIES SHOWN NOT ONLY LIGHT BUT MAKE
DRAMATIC ELECTRONIC SOUNDS. (9-VOLT BATTERY
NOT INCLUDED). YOU CAN PRETEND HE HAS COME
FROM A GALAXY FAR AWAY TO SHARE HEROIC
ADVENTURES WITH YOU.

ROM THE SPACEKNIGHT

**PARKER
BROTHERS**

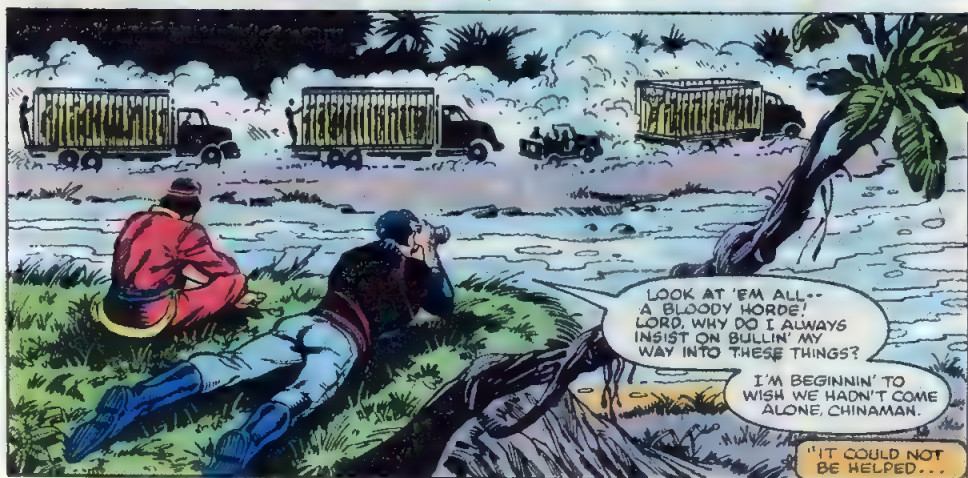
"-- THE FIRST CONVOY IS ON ITS WAY TO THE AIRSTRIP, CARRYING KEY MEN AND WOMEN IN POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE FROM EVERY MAJOR AND MINOR POWER IN THE WORLD..."

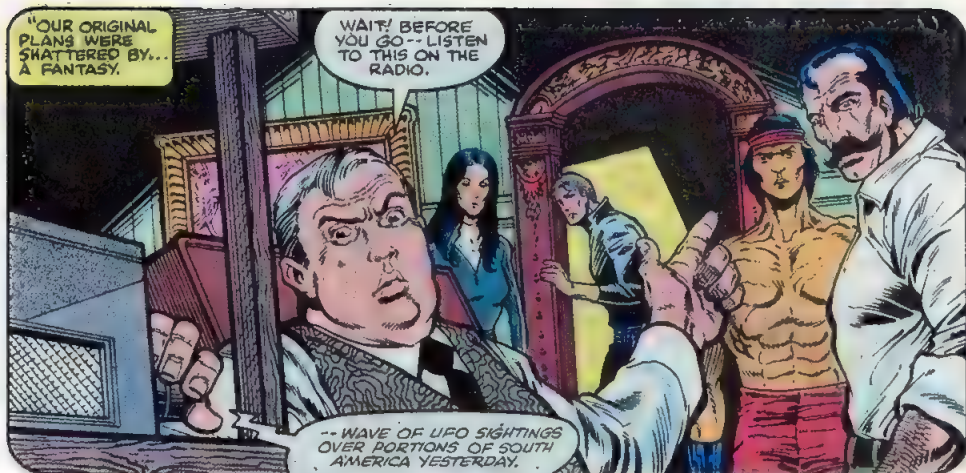


"NOW ALTERED, THEY ARE THE FIRST SEEDS SOON TO BE PLANTED--"



"--AND EVENTUALLY TO SPROUT AS MIND-CONTROLLED AGENTS FOR MY DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE ENTIRE GLOBE."





MIGHTY MARVEL'S BIG MONEY-SAVING HOLIDAY OFFER!



PREPARE
YOURSELF FOR THE
BARGAIN OF THE SEASON!
IF YOU SUBSCRIBE TO ANY
MIGHTY MARVEL MAG, LISTED
BELOW, THE FIRST SUBSCRIPTION
COSTS \$5.00!

NOW HERE'S THE BEST PART—EACH ADDITIONAL
TITLE YOU SUBSCRIBE TO IS ONLY \$4.99! YOU
SAVE A WHOLE DOLLAR EVERY TIME YOU
SUBSCRIBE! THE MORE MERRY MARVEL MAGS
YOU ORDER, THE MORE YOU ~~SAVE!~~

SO DON'T DELAY, THIS
SUPER-SAVINGS OFFER EXPIRES
JANUARY 31, 1980, SO ORDER
TODAY! 'NUFF SAID!

SENSATIONAL MONEY-SAVING HOLIDAY OFFER

OCT-79

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| ☐ DEFENDERS | ☐ ROM |
| ☐ DOCTOR STRANGE | ☐ SHOGUN WARRIORS |
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Bubble Gum

WIN YOUR DREAM FUN ROOM



It's easy. It's fun. It's the Bubble Yum "Number Yum" Sweepstakes. Win a professional juke box filled with top hit records and a Brunswick pinball machine to make your room a Dream Fun Room, the Number Yum way to entertain your friends.

Here's all you have to do: Watch Saturday/Sunday morning TV or listen to your favorite radio station and keep a lookout for a Bubble Yum commercial. Just count the number of times the words "Number Yum" are said in any one of our commercials. Then just send us your answer.

And there are 6,555 other great prizes to win. Like 5 Sony Betamax Video recorders, the Number Yum way to watch TV. 50 Peugeot 10-speed Bikes, the Number Yum bikes. 1,500 Bubble Yum Pocket Radios, the Number Yum sound. And 5,000 Bubble Yum Bookbags, the Number Yum way to carry your books.

Look for special displays and entry blanks where you buy Bubble Yum.

HERE'S HOW TO ENTER

1. Print your name, age, address and zip code on the official entry blank or a plain piece of paper. Indicate how many times the words "Number Yum" are said in one of our Bubble Yum bubble gum radio or TV commercials. **Print your answer in the lower left corner on the front of the envelope.** Each entry must include two (2) Bubble Yum outer wrappers, or print the words "Bubble Yum" on a plain piece of paper. No purchase required.
2. Enter as often as you like; each entry must be mailed separately. Entries must be received by December 31, 1979.
3. Winners will be determined in a random drawing among all entries with the correct answer by National Judging Institute, Inc., an independent judging organization whose decisions are final. All prizes will be awarded. Odds of winning are dependent upon number of correct entries received.
4. Liability for taxes is sole responsibility of prize winner.

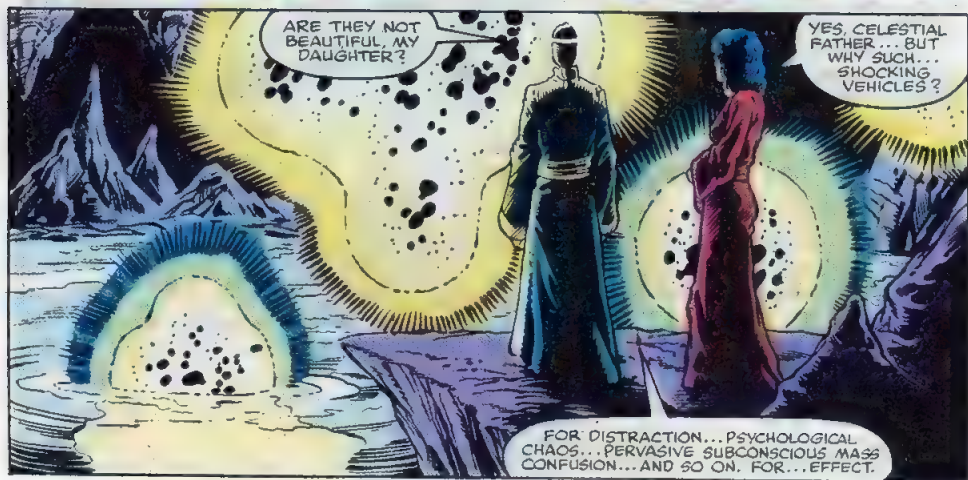
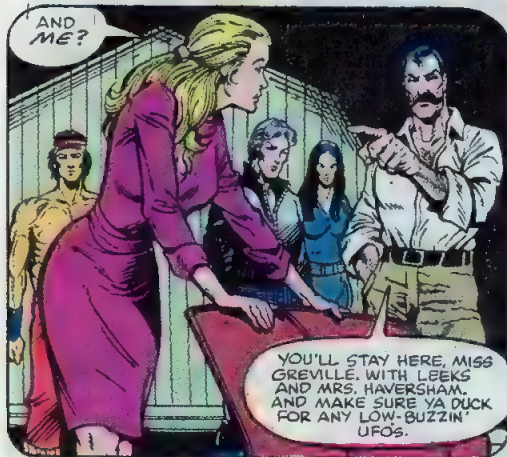
All federal, state and local regulations apply.
5. Sweepstakes open to U.S. residents, except employees and families of LifeSavers, Inc., its affiliated companies and agencies. Offer void in Utah and wherever else prohibited.
6. For a list of major winners, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Bubble Yum Winners, P.O. Box 2598, Westbury, New York 11591.



Mail to: Number Yum Sweepstakes
P.O. Box 2567, Westbury, N.Y. 11591

MC

Name _____ Age _____
(Please Print)
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____



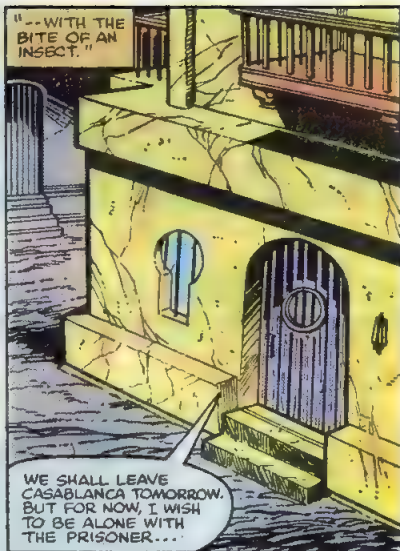


AND FOR PRACTICAL PURPOSES, AS WELL-- ONE OF THEM SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT KARAMEHAH WITH SMITH BY NOW.

SMITH. YOU ARE STILL OBSESSED WITH SMITH.

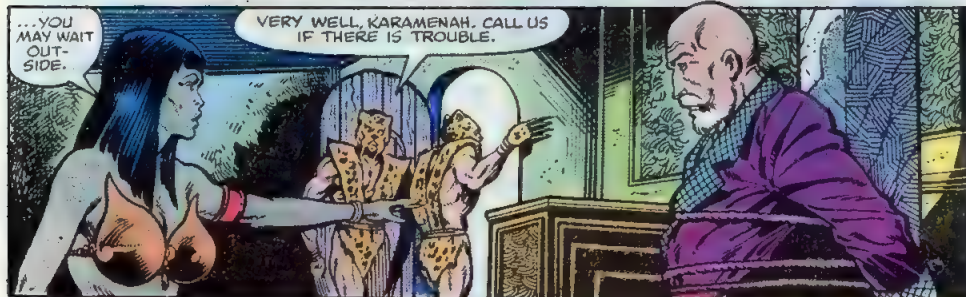


I SHALL ALWAYS BE OBSESSED WITH SMITH-- AS A GIANT IS OBSESSED--



"--WITH THE BITE OF AN INSECT."

WE SHALL LEAVE CASABLANCA TOMORROW. BUT FOR NOW, I WISH TO BE ALONE WITH THE PRISONER....



...YOU MAY WAIT OUTSIDE.

VERY WELL, KARAMEHAH. CALL US IF THERE IS TROUBLE.



NOW WHAT THE DEVIL IS GOING ON, KARAMEHAH? WHY WAS I KIDNAPED? ARE YOU NOW SERVING FU MANCHU?

HE THINKS SO. BUT I AM NOT. I HAD TO CARRY OUT YOUR KIDNAPING, SIR DENIS-- IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD ALERT YOU.



ALERT ME TO WHAT?

HIS NEW PLAN. I'VE DELAYED OUR DEPARTURE FROM MOROCCO AND CONTACTED CLIVE RESTON. WE CAN ONLY HOPE HE ARRIVES IN TIME.

BUT WHAT PLAN? WHAT ON EARTH IS FU MANCHU UP TO?



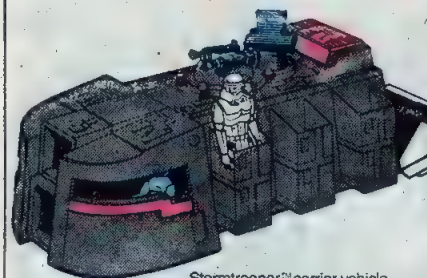
THE SAME PLAN HE TRIED TO ENACT IN 1933, BUT FAILED. DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU AND PETRIE AND LEERS RESCUED ME. WHEN FU MANCHU PLANNED TO KIDNAP THE HEADS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND BRAINWASH THEM?



NOW, FROM THE GREATEST MOVIE OF ALL TIME COMES THE KENNER STAR WARS™ TOY COLLECTION!

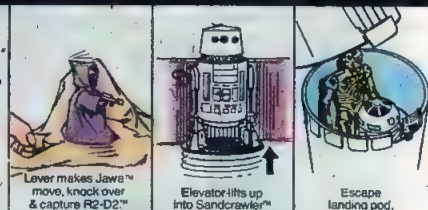
© 1979 Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp.

NEW STAR WARS™ IMPERIAL TROOP TRANSPORTER™

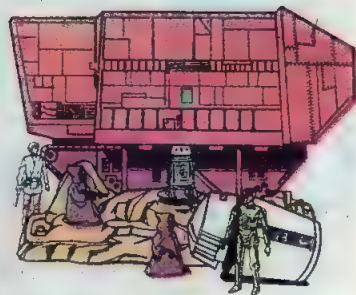


Stormtrooper™ carrier vehicle.
Holds up to 11 action figures! Plays six sounds
from Star Wars™ including R2-D2™ C-3PO™ and
Stormtrooper.™ Assembly required.

Star Wars™ action figures not included. Batteries not included.



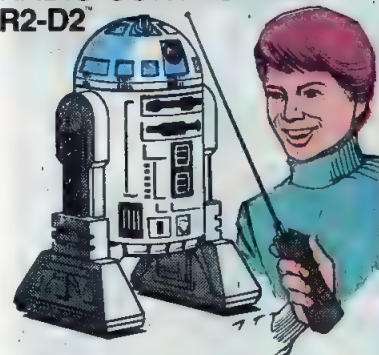
NEW STAR WARS™ LAND OF THE JAWAS™



An action playset to recreate the adventures of the
mysterious Jawas™ and their Sandcrawler™ on Tatooine™
desert! Assembly required.

Star Wars™ action figures not included.

STAR WARS™ RADIO-CONTROLLED R2-D2™



You can make the lovable little droid come to life with
wireless radio control! He beeps, flashes his light, turns
his head and moves in all directions! 8" Tall.

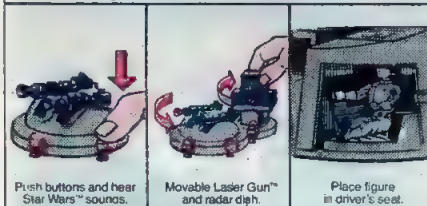
Batteries not included.

NEW STAR WARS™ CREATURE CANTINA™



Relive the fun of that crazy and weird Cantina™ and its
creatures. Exciting playset has action lever movement for
mock battles and automatic door action.

Star Wars™ action figures not included.



Push buttons and hear
Star Wars™ sounds.

Movable Laser Gun™
and radar dish.

Place figure
in driver's seat.

STAR WARS™ DIE-CAST VEHICLES

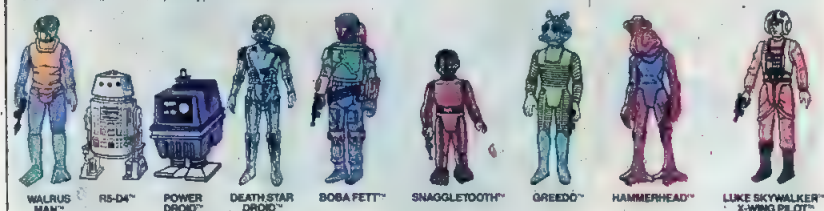
Miniature die-cast metal and high-impact plastic replicas of exciting Star Wars™ vehicles.



Vehicles each sold separately.

ALL-NEW STAR WARS™ ACTION FIGURES

Featuring four Cantina™ Creatures and Star Wars™ newest villain —
Boba Fett!™ (Each sold separately)



WARRUS
MAN™

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POWER
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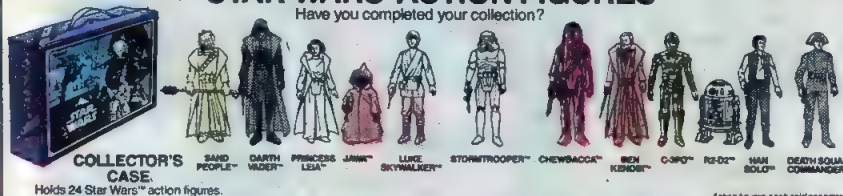
GREEDO™

HAMMERHEAD™

LUKE SKYWALKER™
X-WING PILOT™

STAR WARS™ ACTION FIGURES

Have you completed your collection?



COLLECTOR'S
CASE

Holds 24 Star Wars™ action figures.

SAND
PEOPLE™

DARTH
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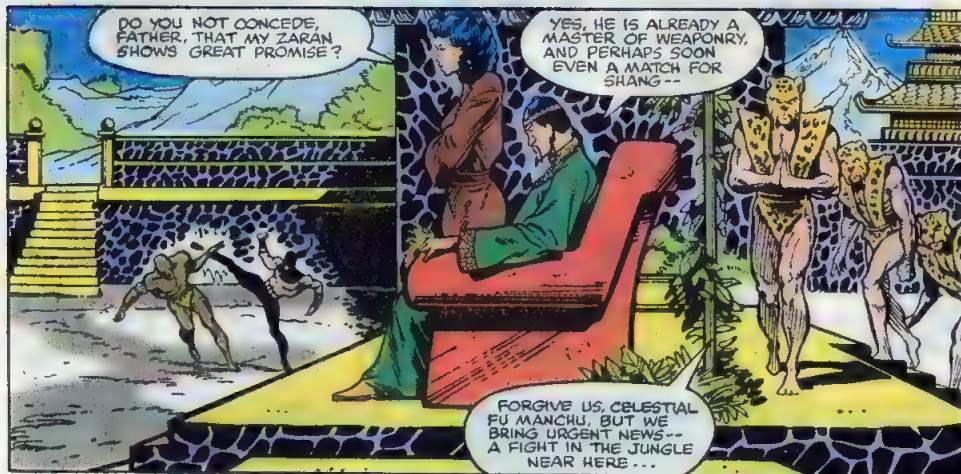
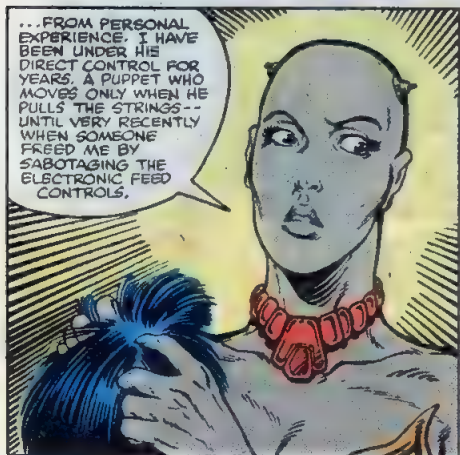
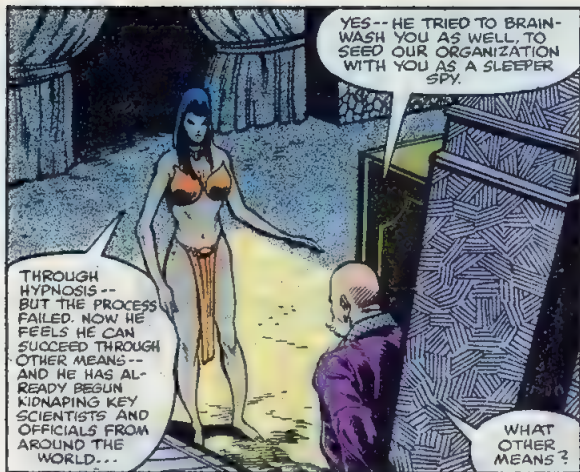
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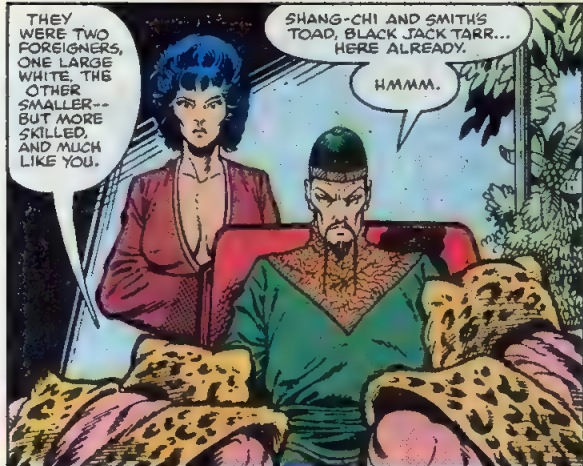
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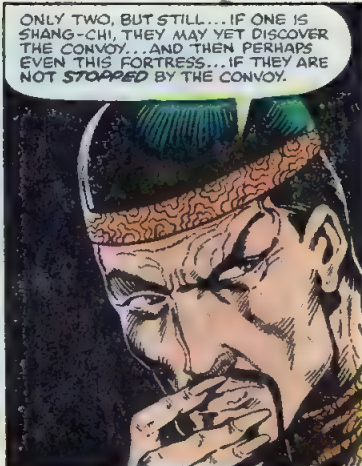




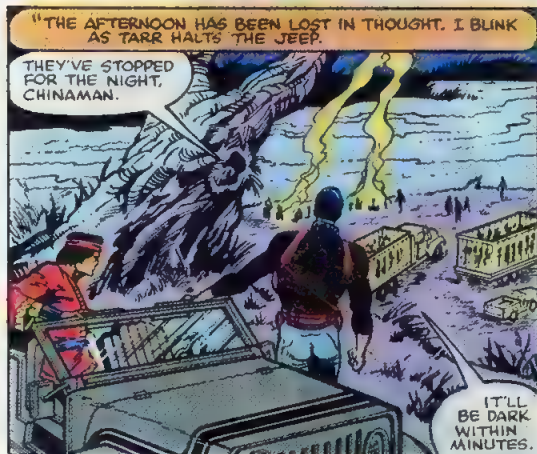
THEY WERE TWO FOREIGNERS, ONE LARGE WHITE, THE OTHER SMALLER-- BUT MORE SKILLED AND MUCH LIKE YOU.

SHANG-CHI AND SMITH'S TOAD, BLACK JACK TARR... HERE ALREADY.

HMMM.



ONLY TWO, BUT STILL... IF ONE IS SHANG-CHI, THEY MAY YET DISCOVER THE CONVOY... AND THEN PERHAPS EVEN THIS FORTRESS... IF THEY ARE NOT STOPPED BY THE CONVOY.



"THE AFTERNOON HAS BEEN LOST IN THOUGHT. I BLINK AS TARR HALTS THE JEEP.

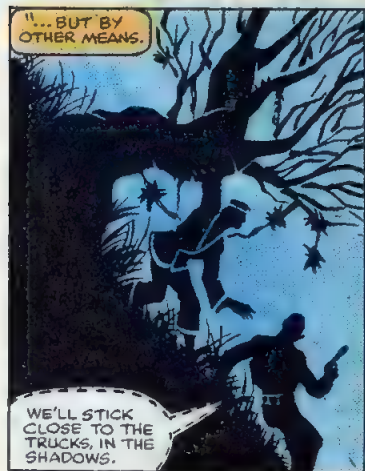
THEY'VE STOPPED FOR THE NIGHT, CHINAMAN.

IT'LL BE DARK WITHIN MINUTES.



NOW'S THE TIME TO TRY SOMETHIN'-- NOW OR NEVER... SNEAK DOWN AND TRY TO CAPTURE ONE OF 'EM, MAKE HIM TALK.

YES...



"...BUT BY OTHER MEANS.

WE'LL STICK CLOSE TO THE TRUCKS, IN THE SHADOWS.



WHAT THE DEVIL--?! WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE ANYWAY?

ANSWER ME, BLAST IT!

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HE STRIKES
FROM OUTER
SPACE...

...CLEAVING
THROUGH THE SKY
LIKE A FIERY
SWORD OF JUSTICE...

...HURTLING
EARTHWARD
ON HIS DREAD
MISSION OF
COSMIC
VENGEANCE!

AND NOTHING CAN STOP HIM!!

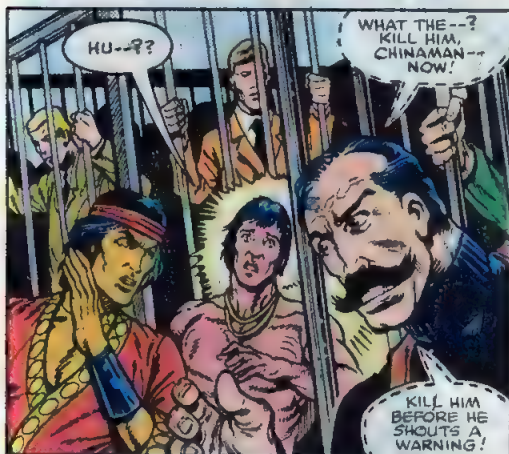
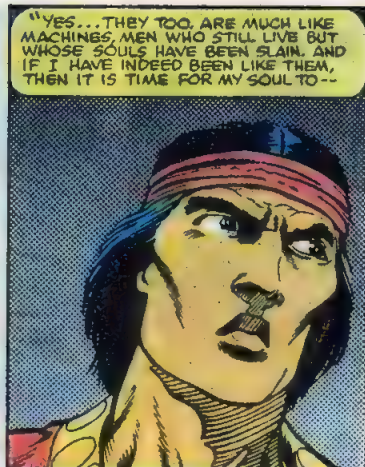
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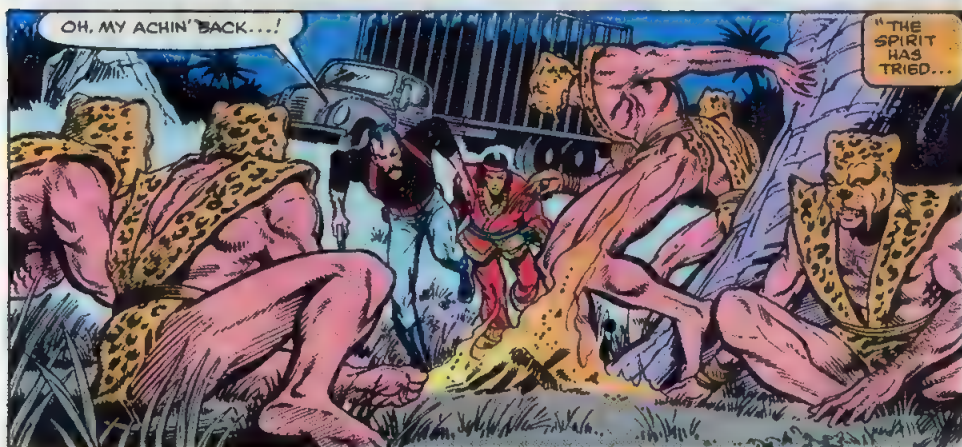
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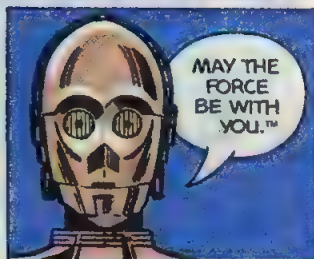
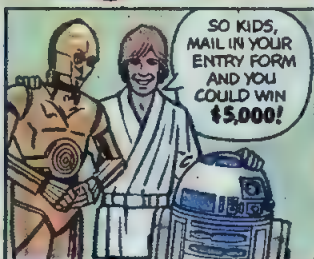
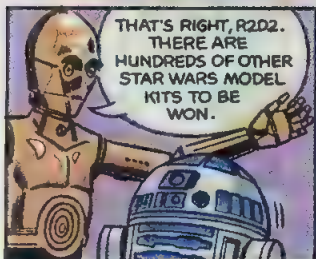
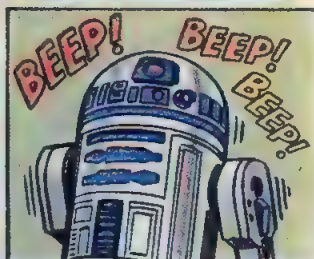
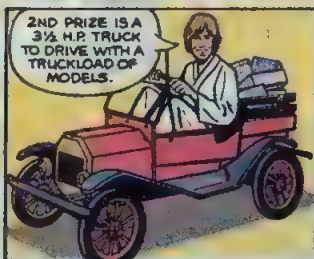
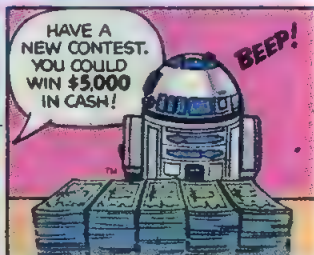
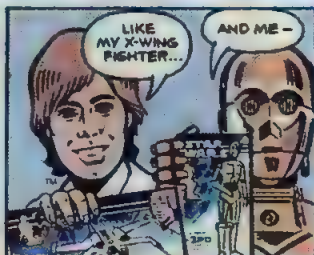
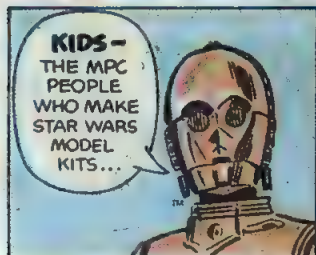
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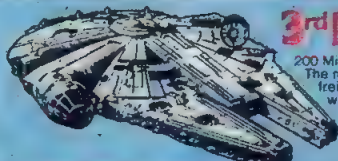


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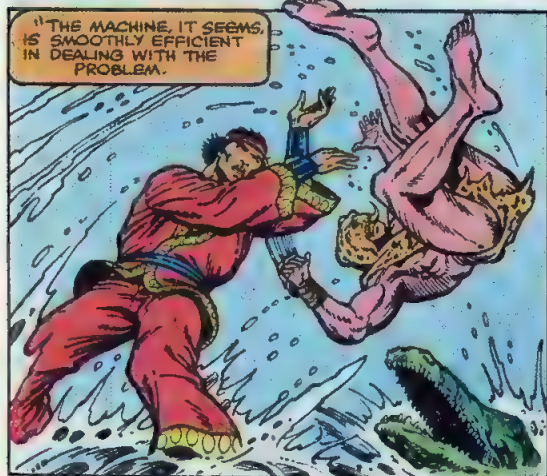
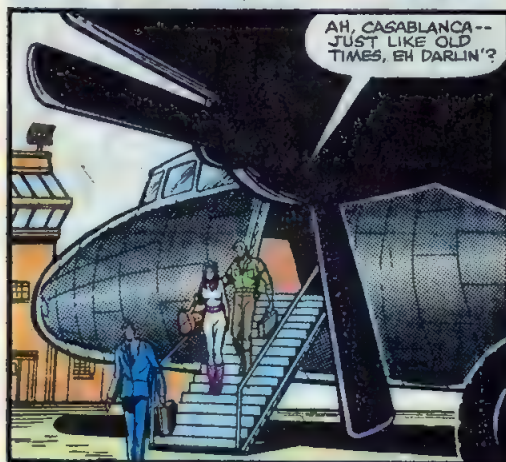
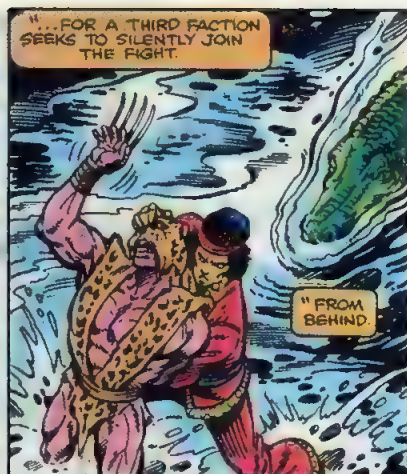
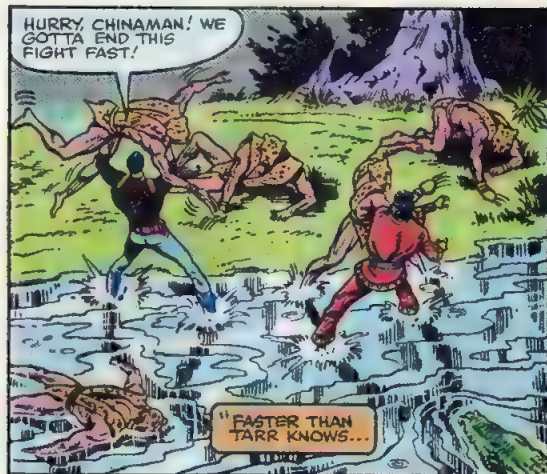
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MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU!™



"IT IS NOT A MACHINE WHICH FIGHTS AND
INJURES THESE MEN.

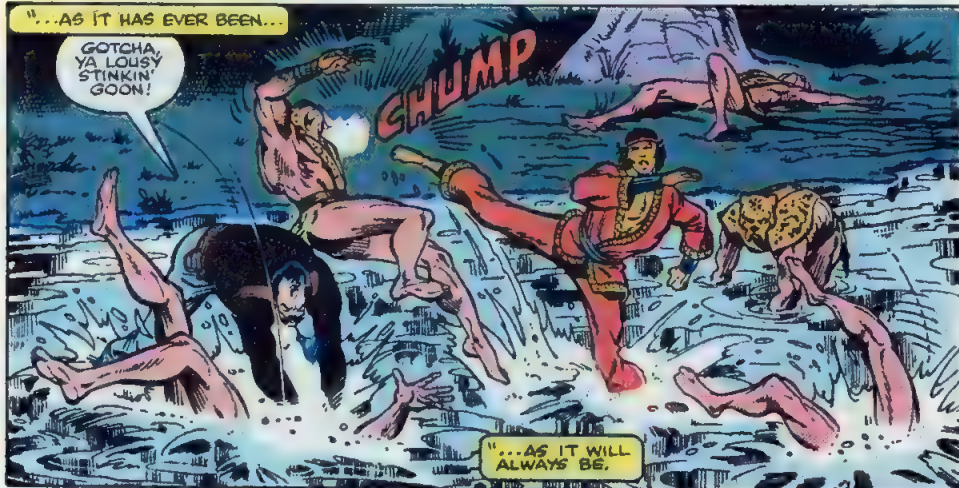


"THE RESPONSIBILITY IS FULLY
MINE...



"...AS IT HAS EVER BEEN...

GOTCHA,
YA LOUSY
STINKIN'
GOON!



CHUMP

"...AS IT WILL
ALWAYS BE.

"AND THOUGH I DO NOT
LIKE IT, WILL NEVER LIKE
IT, IT IS SO.



BULPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Okay, movie and tv fans, fasten your seat belts! Marvel's going Hollywood, and I'm bustin' to tell you about it, just as I promised last ish!

Even as you read these wondrous words, we're all quakin' with excitement because the Silver Surfer seems destined to become a big, bombshell Star Wars type of movie! It'll take a year or so to film, so you should be seeing it sometime in 1982. But, that's not all! Daredevil, Thor, Spider-Man, Captain America - to name just a few - will soon be starring at your favorite neighborhood movie theatre, on your tv screen, or on the stage of a Broadway show - and we mean live, with flesh-and-blood stars!

Meanwhile, right now Spidey's female counterpart, Spider-Woman, begins her new Saturday morning animated series on ABC-TV, while the ever-lovin' Thing is starring in his own Saturday morning cartoon comedy on NBC-TV! Give 'em a gender, hear? You'll get a real kick outta the kid show versions!

Anyway, mighty Marvel is getting so wrapped up in show biz that I've moved to Los Angeles for a while to set up our own West Coast film production headquarters! It's been a real blast meeting and getting to know so many actors, screen writers, and directors; but best of all has been the fun of introducing them to the wonderment of Marvel!

And, speaking of wonderment, I've just gotta tell you about my latest assault on the sanity of mankind. It's a new book called "The Best of the Worst" - a cataclysmic compendium of the rottenest things on earth! It's lavishly illustrated, fantastically funny, published by Harper & Row, and on sale at book stores everywhere for the ridiculous price of \$4.95! After all, even us big Hollywood tycoons gotta eat!

Well, that's enough incredible info for now, 'cause we don't wanna spoil you! So, till we meet again next ish, always remember - nobody's perfect; even the Silver Surfer flunked his audition for "Hair!"

Excelsior!

Stan

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT! EPIC ILLUSTRATED DEBUTS JANUARY 24th. Yes, we know you've all been waiting for a long time, faithful ones, but imagine how we feel! No one could be more excited than we are about the dazzling artwork, the startling stories, and the sheer science fiction/fantasy wonderment wrapped up in EPIC - because we know how terrific it is! Things take time, though, and we're leaving nothing about EPIC to chance. We want everything to be perfect, and if that means we've got to wait until January, then (sigh!) so be it. Anyway next month, in this space, we'll be making a special, limited *Charter Subscription Offer* so that you, our faithful followers, can get in on the ground floor. Stay tuned!

ITEM! Every week, it seems, we get a kaboodle of letters from culture lovers coast to coast complaining about how tough it is to find all of our Marvelous Masterpieces at the local drugstore or newsstand each month. Some titles, it seems, sell out almost overnight, and others apparently never even arrive from the distributor! Many fans have suggested that Marvel open up a chain of Comics Stores across the country which would specialize in Marvel's magnificent magazines, comics, merchandise, and hard-to-get back issues so that serious collectors and fans would have easy access to their favorite Marvel masterworks. That, friends, is a terrific idea - which is probably why someone beat us to it! The fact is that there are currently *hundreds* of comics shops scattered across this great land, owned and operated by scores

of independent dealers. Virtually every major city has at least one shop, and new ones are popping up all the time, often in smaller towns and hamlets where frustrated frantic fans abound. Most of these shops carry all the latest comics (even our competition!) and many of them handle back issues, posters, books, T-shirts, and lots of other great stuff as well! There's probably a comics shop or two in your very area, so if you want to keep up with the latest, don't sit there like a lump, look in the phone book, ask around, and find out where the nearest comics shop is. If you can't locate one, check the *classified ads* in this very comic book. Many dealers advertise in the comics and do business by mail! And keep watching those ad pages for a *listing* of comicbook specialty shops which we hear is coming soon!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST Marvel Masterpieces on sale this month!

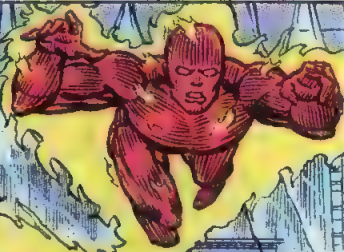
- ☐ **MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #59** - The Thing and the Human Torch team up! Don't miss it!
- ☐ **SHOGUN WARRIORS #12** - The Warriors go to the moon to find the mystery menace that threatens Earth.
- ☐ **SPIDER-WOMAN #22** - Spider-Woman faces the Killer Clown!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #162** - "Requiem for a Pug!" Matt Murdock relives his tragic past.
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPERHEROES #86** - A classic tale from yesterday! The Hulk faces the mighty Golem!
- ☐ **SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #44** - Spidey tangles with Dr. Time and Dr. Octopus with the Vision at his side.
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #200** - The one you've been waiting for! It's double-sized dynamite as Spider-Man battles the Burglar!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #241** - The Punisher guest stars in a tale called "Fear Grows in Brooklyn!"
- ☐ **THOR #291** - It's Thor versus Odin And Zeus in the land of the Eternal!
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #13** - Bug returns to his native planet to settle an old score!
- ☐ **FUN AND GAMES #5** - Puzzles! Mazes! Fun, fun, fun!
- ☐ **BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #11** - "Scavengerworld!" Scavenger-Pirates threaten to dismantle the Galactica!
- ☐ **HULK #243** - The Green Behemoth slugs his way out of the clutches of Tyrannus!
- ☐ **AVENGERS #191** - The Avengers on trial! The Grey Gargoyle strikes! This one is a blockbuster!
- ☐ **CONAN #106** - "Chaos in Kush!" The sullen-eyed Cimmerian battles a Man-Boar monster!
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #111** - Represents Spider-Man's epic battle with the Tarantula!
- ☐ **X-MEN #129** - Professor X returns! A new, mysterious mutant enters the fold! And there's a crisis in Chicago!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #214** - Can Johnny Storm save his teammates from the effects of the Skrull Aging Ray?
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #89** - Spider-Man joins Nightcrawler to confront Arcade, the Carnival Killer!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #130** - Iron Man journeys to Hong Kong to find terror at the hands of the Digital Devil!
- ☐ **PETER PARKER #38** - Spider-Man battles Morbius the Living Vampire at a Halloween party!
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #79** - Sub-Mariner, the Hulk and Dr. Strange face terror in the Tunnelworld!
- ☐ **MASTER OF KUNG FU #84** - "The Bull and the Dragon!" Shang-Chi and Black Jack Tarr track evil Fu Manchu in the heart of the Amazon jungle!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #4** - An all-new CAPTAIN MARVEL masterpiece! "Shadow Doom!"
- ☐ **STAR WARS #31** - "Return to Tatooine!" Luke Skywalker faces grave peril on his home planet.
- ☐ **FANTASY MASTERPIECES #2** - The Silver Surfer battles the dreaded Badon! A double-length, epic tale retold!
- ☐ **AMAZING ADVENTURES #2** - The original X-Men battle Magneto! A classic from the dawn of the Marvel Age of Comics!
- ☐ **TALES TO ASTONISH #2** - A titanic tale retold! Sub-Mariner battles Triton the Inhuman. Featuring the villainy of the Plantman.
- ☐ **MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #84** - The Fantastic Four join forces with Sub-Mariner to free Susan Richards and Lady Dorma from the clutches of Magneto. A retold tale.
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPER ACTION #15** - Representing the Avengers' battle with Baron Zemo!
- ☐ **ROM, SPACEKNIGHT #2** - The Dire Wraiths threaten to destroy the star-born Cyborgnight!
- ☐ **MAN-THING #2** - The Muck-Monster stalks the Himalayas!
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER #40** - "Menace of the Nuclear Man!" The Satanic Cyclist versus science-spawned super-menace!
- ☐ **MARVEL TREASURY #24** - Re-presents the Hulk's classic confrontations with the Inhumans and Adam Warlock!

THE HUMAN TORCH

THE CITY IS
IN THE MIDDLE
OF A DEEP
FREEZE.

THE ICEMASTER COMETH

THE ICEMASTER IS
LIVING UP TO HIS THREAT
TO PUT US INTO A
NEW ICE AGE.



EVEN YOU'RE NOT
HOT ENOUGH TO
MELT MY HEART
OF ICE, FLAME-
FACE.



HE'S RIGHT.
HIS POWER IS
NOT JUST ICE--
IT'S LIFE-
STEALING
COLD.

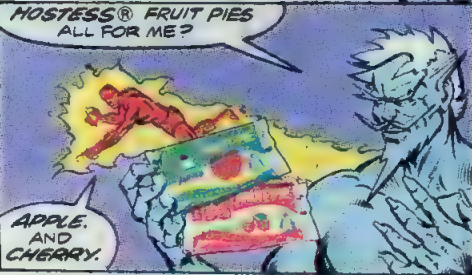


LEAVING
ME COLD,
HOT SHOT?

GETTING SOME-
THING THAT WILL
WARM YOU FROM
THE INSIDE OUT,
ICEMASTER.

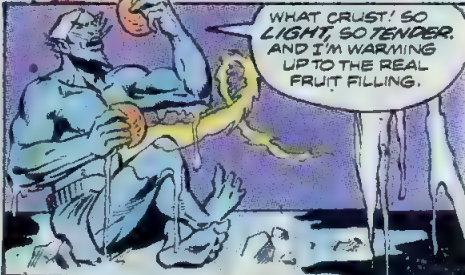


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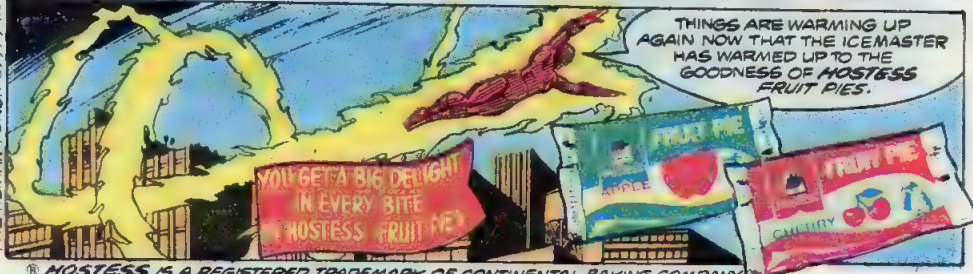


APPLE.
AND
CHERRY.

WHAT CRUST! SO
LIGHT, SO TENDER.
AND I'M WARMING
UP TO THE REAL
FRUIT FILLING.



THINGS ARE WARMING UP
AGAIN NOW THAT THE ICEMASTER
HAS WARMED UP TO THE
GOODNESS OF HOSTESS
FRUIT PIES.



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"IT ENDS. THE LEOPARD-
CULTISTS ARE STILL... BUT
THE WATERS ARE NOT."



GATORS!

NO. YOU WILL GO THE OTHER
WAY-- ACROSS THE RIVER...
IF YOU CAN.

OUT OF THE WATER,
TARR-- BUT SLOWLY.
THEY SCENT THE
BLOOD AND ANY SUDDEN
MOVEMENT WILL CAUSE
THEM TO STRIKE.
TURN SLOWLY FOR
THE BANK...



"THEN...MY ONE ACT OF CONSCIENCE
WAS A MOVE OF DEFEAT IN A GAME
SUCH AS THIS."



"I SHOULD
HAVE KILLED
THE MAN,
OR AT LEAST
SILENCED
HIM."

"SOMETIMES
IT IS BETTER
TO ACT AS
A MACHINE,
WITHOUT
THOUGHT OR
CONSCIENCE."

"FOR, DRAGONS
DIE... BUT
MACHINES DO
NOT BLEED."

NEXT
SPOTLIGHTING CLIVE
RESTON AND LEIKO WU--
**THE RAM AND
THE DOVE!**

MISSIVES TO THE MASTER!

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575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

ROGER STERN
EDITOR
JIM SALICRUP
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Since we consumed an incredible amount of space with our own long-winded comments last time, we're gonna be still and try to squeeze in three long letters this time...

Dear Doug and Mike:

It was only after reading MASTER OF KUNG FU #76 for perhaps the third time that I finally came to the realization that this is a damn good book!

When you go from reading a story about Dr. Strange turning into a werewolf to a tale of love, betrayal, and shattered idealism, you don't at first really grasp the full meaning and significance. Then you read it again, perhaps to concentrate more on the art this time, and then you might read it another time, just because it happens to complement one of your favorite collections.

But now -- when a simple comicbook that costs only 40¢ and is printed on some of the cheapest paper available can offer so much insight and become such an object of introspection -- I am stunned. This mood has been building since an excellent tale called "Nighttimes," and I find it a very welcome change from brick-smashing and head-crunching or killing for microdot puzzles. The dark and ominous art highlighted the story perfectly, and I now believe I would almost rather see Mike Zeck on this book than Paul Gulacy. (Still...)

The story flowed along extremely well; even the "obligatory" fight scene seemed to fit as a necessary component. (The only complaint I have concerns the Black Jack Tarr interludes. They would have been much better presented in a succeeding issue.) The old man's comments about the world's only harmony being a continual coexistence with discord were priceless. Another fine touch was Shang-Chi's confusion about being a pacifist who is constantly forced to fight. It is the first time he's ever shown so much introspection -- far different from "...and the brittle sounds of violence...etc." And so pathetic that the old man betrayed Shang-Chi as soon as he learned his name; it reminded me of the way Chi tried to relate to his father, Fu Manchu, when they have such radically different interpretations of life. Then, later, Shang's remark: "...then let them enjoy this," is a clear sign of bitter cynicism. He is losing trust in nearly everyone; even those who have never before met him now seem to inevitably turn against him. Yet he does not want to grow hard and cruel; he still feels guilt when tossing the old man's money back in his face. His talk with Leiko is one of the most beautiful exchanges I've ever read, and it's a shame that the phone call at the end made it seem somewhat anticlimactic. Yet, even so, it shows that there can never be any kind of harmony in the discordant world of today.

Even if you two can never again reach the level of excellence here in "Smoke, Beads, and Blood" -- even if MOKF is cancelled with the next issue -- I will always regard this as one of the greatest accomplishments ever created in the silly little comicbook world. This book has come a long way since the early days of "Kill him! Destroy the red-garbed intruder!"

Michael Heisler
118 Lexington Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15215

Gentlemen,

What is it about this mag that so captures me? What enraptures, clutches, leads me from issue to issue without a breath of hesitation? What holds me more than the merely habitual nature of a fan? What lingers past the consideration of kung fu as a fad?

Because it lives! I've just reread MOKF #77 for the God-only-knows how manyth time and have come to the haughty but definite conclusion that this title has outgrown the label of "comicbook" into something more akin to... I don't know... a continuing novel, I suppose. There is realism. There is emotion. There is life!

Other mags, like the splendid X-MEN, keep me on the edge of my seat impatiently awaiting the next installment -- closer to the serials of bygone days. But MOKF is a more serene wait -- knowing it will be here in due time, and when it arrives it will be sublime. I buy it as a matter of course rather than snatching it as a matter of need. Credit goes first and foremost to Douglas Moench, whom I rank not with the best comicbook writers, but with the best writers around, period. I enjoy reading a new MOKF as much as a new Ellison story in PLAYBOY. Thanks, Rog and Jim, for giving Doug the freedom he needs to obtain MOKF's uniqueness -- the flow, the life.

And even though MOKF has gone through a battery of artists, including some of the very best, it has never suffered from lack of quality -- no schlock one-shot fill-ins. And now, with #76 and 77, Zeck and Day have refined a style with which I am more and more pleased. Gene has taken Mike's soft pencils one step further.

I don't know what to say about the new plotline, except to wonder: Will you ever come up with an idea that DOESN'T work? I doubt it. Thank you, Doug, for consistently showing a man who chooses heart over duty, life over death, serenity over violence. Do not let popular demand change your style. Live.

Kevin J. Dooley
801 S. Gramercy Dr. #104
Los Angeles, CA 90005

Dear Sirs:

MOKF #78 depicted to a much higher degree than usual Shang-Chi's deep love for Leiko; it was matched in this respect only by MOKF #71. What I don't understand, though, is why Shang left Leiko in the inn. He was aware she was alive, yet he couldn't be sure she'd remain so.

I'll give you one thing, however: Shang-Chi was no less than hell-bent on paying Zaran back and retrieving that tape. Chi is at his best when he is angry, and his fighting skills were magnificently displayed in the five-page battle with Zaran. The "SHANG" sound effect was well placed in the context of the "Shang" dialogue, and quite effective.

So, the "mysterious visitor" was none other than Fah Lo Suee. If my hunch is correct, we'll soon be seeing Fu Manchu's return as well. We could then enjoy another three-way war epic. I certainly hope so.

William Stewart
7005 Monroe Court
Charlottesville, VA 22901

As you've no doubt noticed by now, William, your hope is our command. Fu Manchu has returned, quietly, moodily thus far -- but soon with a vengeance. Till then... be good.

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